IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of San Luis Obispo, State of California

_____day _____, 20___

PRESENT: Supervisors

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE NACIMIENTO LAKE DRIVE AT ADELAIDA ROAD LEFT TURN LANE ADDITION PROJECT, ADOPTING THE INITIAL STUDY, MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The following resolution is now offered and read:

WHEREAS, the Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road intersection has been identified as an area within the County roads system that requires enhancements consisting of the addition of a left turn lane and other associated upgrades to improve the flow of traffic and increase the level of safety along the roadway; and

WHEREAS, the Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road Left Turn Lane Addition Project consists of widening to accommodate the proposed left turn lane and two six-foot wide road shoulders, repaving, signage, road striping, and other associated infrastructure improvements such as culvert extensions. A small amount of riparian vegetation that surrounds an existing roadside drainage channel must be trimmed and two coast live oak trees must be removed from an upland portion of the right of way to accommodate the project; and

WHEREAS, an Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared for the project and circulated for agency and public review and comment (the "Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration"), all in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, together with state and local guidelines implementing said Act, all as amended to date (collectively, "CEQA"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project and intends to take actions on the project in compliance with CEQA; and

WHEREAS, the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project are, by this reference, incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the local CEQA Guidelines adopted by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Section 21082 of the Public Resources Code designate the Environmental Coordinator as the person to make environmental determinations and recommendations pursuant to CEQA and the Environmental Coordinator has reviewed and recommended adoption of the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, as follows:

1. That the following findings are made:

    a) The Board of Supervisors has reviewed the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration and other information in the whole record and has considered the information contained therein; and

    b) The Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the project has been completed in compliance with CEQA; and

    c) The Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration represents the independent judgment and analysis of the County as Lead Agency for the Project.

2. That the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration and the related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared for the project, which are attached hereto collectively as Attachment A and are incorporated herein by reference, are hereby adopted; and

3. That the Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road Left Turn Lane Addition Project described in the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration is hereby approved and the Public Works Department is hereby directed to complete the associated project development activities, including but not limited to: obtaining the required environmental regulatory permits and preparation of final plans and specifications.

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAINING:

the foregoing Resolution is hereby adopted on the ____ day of _____, 20___.

_____
Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

_____
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

[SEAL]

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

By: _____
Deputy County Counsel

Dated: November 12, 2015

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA, }
County of San Luis Obispo, } ss.

I, _____, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in and for the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of an order made by the Board of Supervisors, as the same appears spread upon their minute book.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Board of Supervisors, affixed this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

_____
County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors

(SEAL)

By _____
Deputy Clerk.

Attachment A

County File Number: ED14-037 (300348) SCH Number: _____

COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
NACIMIENTO LAKE DRIVE AT ADELAIDA ROAD LEFT TURN LANE ADDITION PROJECT
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION & INITIAL STUDY

Abstract

The San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department (County) proposes to construct a left hand turn lane on Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road via widening along the south side of Nacimiento Lake Drive. The proposed project also includes construction of two six-foot wide road shoulders, repaving, road striping, associated infrastructure improvements (such as culvert extensions), and installation of the appropriate signage. An existing roadside drainage channel occurs along the southeast corner of the intersection. A miniscule amount of riparian vegetation associated with the roadside drainage requires removal in order to extend the existing culvert at this location, which spans Nacimiento Lake Drive. Two coast live oak trees will be removed from an upland portion of the right-of-way (ROW) in the northwestern portion of the project site. The project site is located along the south side of Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road, which is approximately 1.07 miles northwest of the Paso Robles city limits, in the North County planning area (Appendix A – Vicinity Map). Comments regarding this document may be sent to Kristie Haydu, County Public Works Department, County Government Center Room 206, San Luis Obispo, California 93408.

The following persons may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

Kristie Haydu, Environmental Programs Division
or
Genaro Diaz, Project Manager
County Department of Public Works
County Government Center, Room 206
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
(805) 781-5252

This proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration has been issued by:

9.14.2015 Ellen Carroll
Date Ellen Carroll, Environmental Coordinator
County of San Luis Obispo

The project proponent, who agrees to implement the mitigation measures for the project, is:

9/18/15 Dave Flynn
Date Dave Flynn, Deputy Director of Public Works
County of San Luis Obispo

Initial Study Summary – Environmental Checklist

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING
976 OSOS STREET • ROOM 200 • SAN LUIS OBISPO • CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5600

(ver 5.2)

Project Title & No. San Luis Obispo County Department of Public Works Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road Left Turn Lane Addition Project; ED14-037 (300348)

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The proposed project could have a "Potentially Significant Impact" for at least one of the environmental factors checked below. Please refer to the attached pages for discussion on mitigation measures or project revisions to either reduce these impacts to less than significant levels or require further study.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Geology and Soils	☐ Recreation
☒ Agricultural Resources	☐ Hazards/Hazardous Materials	☐ Transportation/Circulation
☒ Air Quality	☐ Noise	☐ Wastewater
☒ Biological Resources	☐ Population/Housing	☐ Water /Hydrology
☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Public Services/Utilities	☐ Land Use

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the Environmental Coordinator finds that:

☐ The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Kristie Haydu	Kristie Haydu		7/7/15
Prepared by (Print)	Signature		Date
Rob Fitzroy	Rob Fitzroy	Ellen Carroll, Environmental Coordinator	7/7/15
Reviewed by (Print)	Signature	(for)	Date

Project Environmental Analysis

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, available background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The County Planning Department uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the initial environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Planning Department, 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

A. PROJECT

DESCRIPTION: The San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department (County) proposes to construct a left hand turn lane on Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road via widening along the south side of Nacimiento Lake Drive. The proposed project also includes construction of two six-foot wide road shoulders, repaving, road striping, associated infrastructure improvements, and installation of the appropriate signage. An existing roadside drainage channel occurs along the southeast corner of the intersection. A miniscule amount of riparian vegetation associated with the roadside drainage requires removal in order to extend the existing culvert at this location, which spans Nacimiento Lake Drive. Two coast live oak trees will be removed from an upland portion of the right-of-way (ROW) in the northwestern portion of the project site. The project site is located along the south side of Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road, which is approximately 1.07 miles northwest of the Paso Robles city limits, in the North County planning area.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): The project site occurs within the County's existing ROW and is adjacent to the following Assessor Parcel Numbers: 026-261-024, 026-261-029, 026-261-030, 026-271-014, 026-271-027, and 026-271-028. The Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road intersection occurs at approximately:

Latitude: 35.649756 Longitude: -120.720528 **SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT** # 1

B. EXISTING SETTING

PLANNING AREA: North County; Adelaida

TOPOGRAPHY: Nearly level with defined channel

LAND USE CATEGORY: Agriculture and Rural Residential

VEGETATION: Predominantly ruderal/developed

COMBINING DESIGNATION(S): None

PARCEL SIZE: Not applicable

EXISTING USES: Roadway corridor

SURROUNDING LAND USE CATEGORIES AND USES:

North: Agriculture; agricultural uses	*East:* Agriculture; agricultural uses
South: Rural Residential; agricultural and residential	*West:* Rural Residential; agricultural and residential

C. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

During the Initial Study process, at least one issue was identified as having a potentially significant environmental effects (see following Initial Study). Those potentially significant items associated with the proposed uses can be minimized to less than significant levels.

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1. AESTHETICS *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Create an aesthetically incompatible site open to public view?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Introduce a use within a scenic view open to public view?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Change the visual character of an area?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Create glare or night lighting, which may affect surrounding areas?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Impact unique geological or physical features?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project site is located at the intersection of Nacimiento Lake Drive and Adelaida Road and is situated in a rural residential and agricultural setting. The immediate surrounding area supports development including several rural residences, a dog boarding facility, a farm stand, vineyards, and orchards. A few relatively small stands of natural vegetation are interspersed throughout the immediately surrounding area and include open annual grassland, mixed riparian, oak woodland, and fallow agricultural fields.

The project includes a small amount of vegetation trimming within the riparian corridor associated with the roadside drainage channel and removal of two oak trees within the existing ROW. The immediate effects of the project may be temporarily noticeable from the intersection until the trimmed riparian vegetation re-establishes to its previous density. Replacement oak trees for the trees removed will be installed within the ROW. Individuals traveling along the roadway may notice the trimming activities and thinned vegetation; however the vegetation must be periodically trimmed for road and utility maintenance. Therefore, trimming of the vegetation required for project implementation would not be considered unusual, excessive, or noteworthy especially once the vegetation grows back post-construction. The project will not be visible from any major public roadway (such as a state or federal highway) and will not silhouette against any ridgelines that are visible from public roadways. No work will occur at night and the project is considered compatible with the surrounding land uses.

Impact. No significant visual impacts are expected to occur.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Convert prime agricultural land, per NRCS soil classification, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act program?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. Project Elements. The following area-specific elements relate to the property's importance for agricultural production:

Land Use Category: Agriculture and Rural residential

State Classification: Not prime farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance

Historic/Existing Commercial Crops: Grapes, small portion

In Agricultural Preserve? Yes; Paso Preserve

Under Williamson Act contract? No

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) online web soil survey the soil types and characteristics within the project site include:

(128) Cieneba-Vista complex, 30 to 50 percent slopes. These soils typically occur on hills and are derived from residuum weathered from granitic rock parent materials. They are somewhat excessively well drained. Cieneba-Vista soils have low shrink/swell characteristics and low erodibility. These soils are not classified as prime farmland.

(152) Linne-Calodo complex, nine to 30 percent slopes. These soils also typically occur on hills and are derived from residuum weathered from calcareous shale and/or sandstone and residuum weathered from calcareous sandstone parent materials. They are well drained and have low shrink/swell characteristics. Linne-Calodo soils have low erodibility and are not classified as prime farmland.

(158) Lockwood shaly loam, two to nine percent slopes. These soils typically occur on terraces and are derived from alluvium that originated from sedimentary rock parent materials. They are well drained and have low shrink/swell characteristics. Lockwood soils have low erodibility and are classified as farmland of statewide importance. This classification is given to farm lands that have minor shortcomings, greater than ideal slopes, a less than optimal ability to store moisture, and have been irrigated within four years of the classification date.

Referral. The proposed project was referred to the County Agricultural Commissioner's office on July 23, 2014 for review and determination of any potential impacts to agricultural resources resulting from the project. A response was received on July 24, 2014 that included recommendations that adequate dust control measures be incorporated into the project for the purpose of protecting surrounding agricultural resources. The response also suggested that temporarily staging areas be located off

agricultural lands where feasible.

Impact. A small portion of the project site, along the southeastern corner of Nacimiento Lake Drive and Adelaida Road, is located within the immediate vicinity of an active vineyard production area. The former land owner inadvertently installed a small portion of the vineyard within the County's existing ROW. Implementation of the project requires that the County re-establish this portion of the ROW, which is approximately 1,900 square feet or 0.04 acre to accommodate the proposed road widening. No actual vines will need to be relocated. However, a section of the outer-perimeter, dirt access road and the existing fence within the area will have to be relocated. No other active agricultural production areas occur within the project limits. Several other active vineyards and orchards are located within the immediate vicinity of the project site. No significant impacts to agricultural resources are anticipated.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The County Agricultural Commissioner's office recommended that dust control measures be implemented to protect adjacent agricultural production areas and that temporary project staging areas be located off agricultural lands where feasible (Auchinachie, 2014). Adequate measures to project adjacent agricultural production areas are incorporated into the project and are presented in the Mitigation/Conclusion component of the Air Quality Section. In addition, the following mitigation measure shall be implemented:

[AG-1] To the maximum extent feasible project staging areas shall be located off adjacent agricultural production areas.

Use of this mitigation measure, along with the dust control measures presented in the Air Quality Section, during the construction phase of the project will minimize potential impacts to agricultural resources to less than significant levels.

3. AIR QUALITY ***Will the project:***	**Potentially Significant**	**Impact can & will be mitigated**	**Insignificant Impact**	**Not Applicable**
a) Violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Create or subject individuals to objectionable odors?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be inconsistent with the District's Clean Air Plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant either considered in non-attainment under applicable state or federal ambient air quality standards that are due to increased energy use or traffic generation, or intensified land use change?	☐	☐	☐	☒

3. AIR QUALITY *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
GREENHOUSE GASES				
f) ***Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?***	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) ***Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?***	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) ***Other:*** _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The Air Pollution Control District (APCD) has developed and updated their CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012) to evaluate project-specific impacts and to help determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result from project implementation. To evaluate long-term emissions, cumulative effects, and establish countywide programs to reach acceptable air quality levels, a Clean Air Plan that was prepared by the APCD has been adopted.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions. GHG Emissions are said to result in an increase in the earth's average surface temperature. This is commonly referred to as global warming. The rise in global temperature is associated with long-term changes in precipitation, temperature, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system. This is also known as climate change. These changes are now thought to be broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from the human production and use of fossil fuels. County thresholds for short-term construction and long-term operational emissions have been established and approved by APCD for GHG emissions impacts and have been incorporated into the CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012). Under CEQA, an individual project's GHG emissions will generally not result in direct significant impacts. This is because climate change is inherently a global issue. However, an individual project could be found to contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact. Projects that have GHG emissions above the designated thresholds may be considered cumulatively significant and could require mitigation.

Fugitive Dust Emissions. Operation of heavy equipment and earth moving operations during construction activities can generate fugitive dust that may have significant temporary impacts on local air quality and climate change. Fugitive dust of concern is particulate matter that is less than 10 microns in size (PM_{10}) and is not emitted from definable point sources such as industrial smokestacks. Fugitive dust emissions may result from vegetation clearing activities, demolition, ground excavation, cut and fill operations, and equipment traffic over temporary access roads at construction sites. If construction related fugitive emissions are released in proximity to sensitive receptors such as schools, parks, day care centers, nursing homes, hospitals, and residences it may be considered a significant impact to local air quality.

Asbestos/Naturally Occurring Asbestos. NOA has been identified by the state Air Resources Board (ARB) as a toxic air contaminant. Serpentine and other ultramafic rocks are abundant throughout San Luis Obispo County and may contain NOA. When disturbed, these substrates can release toxic debris into the air and negatively affect local air quality. If this occurs it may be considered a significant impact to local air quality.

Referral. The proposed project was referred to the APCD on August 14, 2014 for review and

determination of any potential air quality impacts resulting from the proposed project. A response from APCD was received on August 18, 2014 that stated that the project would not exceed their significance thresholds for construction. APCD provided their standard condition to address potential NOA.

Impact. Implementation of the project will result in the maximum disturbance of approximately 0.85 acres. However, the project will be moving less than 1,200 cubic yards of material per day (cy/day) and is disturbing less than one acre total area. Therefore the project is below the general thresholds that trigger construction related mitigation. The proposed project will result in creation of additional short-term construction vehicle/engine combustion and fugitive dust emissions. There are no potential long-term operational GHG emissions that would result from implementation of the proposed project. It will not disturb any NOA that could have a negative effect on local air quality. Each of these topics is discussed in greater detail below.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions. GHG emissions from construction projects must be quantified and amortized over the life of the project. Based on the parameters of this road widening improvement project as defined in the project description, the operational air quality impacts of the project are dramatically less than the APCD's significant threshold as identified in Table 2-1 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012). No long-term operational emissions will result and no mitigation is required. Implementation of the proposed project will result in an increase in short-term construction emissions from engine combustion. The APCD threshold of significance for diesel particulate matter during construction operations is seven pounds per day. The project daily emissions are anticipated to be well below this threshold. However, project-related engine combustion emissions will be released in close proximity (within less than 1,000 feet) to several residences, which are considered sensitive receptors and there is potential for nuisance complaints. Four residences are located within close proximity to the project site. These residences are located between approximately 123 to 150 feet of the project limits. This is considered a potentially significant impact to local air quality and mitigation is required. The project's cumulative GHG emissions are found to be less than significant and would be a less than cumulatively considerable contribution to global GHG emissions. No cumulative impacts to air quality and climate change are anticipated and no mitigation is required.

Fugitive Dust Emissions. The APCD threshold of significance for fugitive dust emissions is 2.5 tons on a quarterly basis. Implementation of the project is anticipated to take 60 days; less than a single annual quarter. Therefore, the anticipated fugitive dust emissions during construction are anticipated to be well below this threshold. However, project-related fugitive dust emissions will be released in close proximity (within less than 1,000 feet) to several residences, which are considered sensitive receptors and there is potential for nuisance complaints. As discussed, four residences are located within approximately 123 to 150 feet of the project limits. This is considered a potentially significant impact to local air quality and mitigation is required.

Asbestos/Naturally Occurring Asbestos. No serpentine rock outcrops or other ultramafic rocks occur within the project site or immediate vicinity and none would be disturbed by project activities. Therefore no significant impacts to local air quality resulting from disturbance of NOA are expected to occur and no mitigation is required. APCD Naturally Occurring Asbestos ATCM Geologic Exemption Request was granted on October 17, 2014.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The anticipated short-term construction engine combustion emissions are expected to be below the APCD threshold of significance. However, because these emissions will be released in close proximity to several residences, which are considered sensitive receptors the following mitigation measures shall be implemented:

[AQ-1] Maintain all construction equipment in proper tune according to the manufacturer's specifications;

[AQ-2] All on and off-road diesel equipment shall not idle for more than five minutes.

[AQ-3] Use water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 miles per hour. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible;

[AQ-4] All dirt stock pile areas should be sprayed daily as needed; and,

[AQ-5] Sweep streets at the end of each day if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent paved roads. Water sweepers with reclaimed water should be used where feasible.

Use of these measures during the construction phase of the project will minimize potential impacts to local air quality from fugitive dust emissions to less than significant levels.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Result in a loss of unique or special status species or their habitats?*	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Impact wetland or riparian habitat?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Interfere with the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or factors, which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Conflict with any regional plans or policies to protect sensitive species, or regulations of the California Department of Fish & Wildlife or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

* Species – as defined in Section15380 of the CEQA Guidelines, which includes all plant and wildlife species that fall under the category of rare, threatened, or endangered, as described in this section.

Setting. The following are existing elements within the project site or immediate vicinity that relate to potential biological concerns:

On-site Vegetation: Ruderal/Disturbed, Agriculture, Non-native Annual Grassland, and Mixed Riparian.

Name and distance from blue line creek(s): No streams that are mapped as blue-line features on the Paso Robles, California U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map occur within the project limits or immediate vicinity of the project. The nearest mapped blue-line stream is located approximately 0.25 mile west of the project site. This feature is an unnamed tributary to Mustard Creek. A second unnamed tributary stream that is mapped as a blue-line feature on the Paso Robles, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map is located approximately 0.25 mile northeast of the project site. This feature is tributary to the Salinas River.

A single roadside drainage channel feature occurs within the southeastern portion of the project site. This feature is approximately six to eight feet deep, four to six feet wide, and has an ephemeral

hydrologic regime. The roadside drainage channel on site is not mapped as a blue-line stream on the Paso Robles, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map. This feature is culverted under Nacimiento Lake Drive and drains into upland areas on the opposite side of the road. No evidence of hydophytic vegetation or hydrology was observed within the areas surrounding the culvert end on the northeastern side of the roadway. The vegetation at this location is dominated by weedy, non-native and ornamental species. The existing culvert across Nacimiento Lake Drive will be extended approximately six feet to the southwest and a headwall will be added. The roadside drainage channel was dry during the field surveys and evidence of an Ordinary High Water Mark could not be detected. The vegetation within this feature is overgrown no scour was observed. The roadside drainage channel appears to collect surface runoff flows from the adjacent upland areas nearby. It is not hydrologically connected to any other aquatic features and seems to be wholly excavated in uplands. For these reasons this feature is not likely considered jurisdictional to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). It does have an associated riparian corridor, which is described below under habitats. The roadside drainage channel is likely considered a jurisdictional water of the state by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

The project site is located within Section 19, Township 26 South, and Range 12 East of the Paso Robles, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. It is located at the intersection of Nacimiento Lake Drive and Adelaida Road and extends approximately 0.33 mile along Nacimiento Lake Drive and 0.02 mile along Adelaida Road. Rural residences and fallow and/or actively farmed agricultural lands surround the project site. The areas on the northeastern side of Nacimiento Lake Drive are zoned for agricultural land use, while the areas on the southwestern side of Nacimiento Lake Drive have a rural residential land use designation. The topography on site is relatively flat and the immediately adjacent areas consist of gently rolling hills. Elevations on site range from approximately 1075 to 1090 feet (323 to 327 meters) above mean sea level.

Habitat(s): Several habitat types were observed within the project site during the field surveys including ruderal/disturbed, agriculture, and mixed riparian. These habitat types are described in greater detail below.

Ruderal/disturbed is the dominant habitat type observed on site and it consists of the existing paved roadways, driveways, road shoulders, landscaped areas, and other disturbed regions within the project site. Relatively few plant species occur within this habitat type and most of the areas given this classification are predominantly unvegetated. However, a limited number of non-native annual grasses, such as wild oat (*Avena fatua*) and ripgut grass (*Bromus diandrus*), and other opportunistic weedy forbs occur within the peripheral areas of this habitat type including: perennial mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), puncture vine (*Tribulus terrestris*), prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), and yellow star-thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*). Just above the road shoulders and curbs on site, the ruderal/disturbed habitat begins to intergrade into a non-native annual grassland community type. However, these areas appear to be regularly maintained by trimming of the vegetation by either the adjacent private land owners, County roads maintenance crews, or by other utilities crews. In a few small areas, several coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) shrubs and limited stands of poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) have become established. Due to the limited extent of these more non-native annual grassland-like areas and the perceptible maintenance activities observed within them, they are not split out into a separate, novel habitat type and remain appropriately under the more inclusive ruderal/disturbed classification. This habitat type does not have a corresponding alliance or element in either the Sawyer (2009) or Holland (1986) classification systems.

As discussed in the Agricultural Resources Section, a small portion of the project site occurs in an active vineyard production area because the land owner inadvertently installed the vineyard within a portion of the County's existing ROW. This habitat type consists of unirrigated mature grape (*Vitis vinifera*) vines that are head trained for dry farming. Only a limited amount of understory vegetation occurs immediately below the vines and the rest of the vineyard is regularly maintained. This habitat type does not have a corresponding alliance or element in either the Sawyer (2009) or Holland (1986) classification systems.

Mixed riparian habitat surrounds the roadside drainage channel in the southeastern portion of the project site. This vegetation community is well-developed and the overstory consists of mature coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), and escaped almond (*Prunus dulcis*) trees. Several species were observed within the shrub/vine layer of this community including: poison oak, Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus discolor*), and coyote brush. The understory of this community is not well-developed, which is likely because of the extensive amount of shade cast by the prolific overstory. This habitat type is considered a sensitive vegetation type because it is regulated by CDFW through Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code and the Lake and Streambed Alteration Program. The average tree canopy cover within this habitat type is approximately 55 to 75 percent. This habitat type most closely corresponds to the *Salix lasiolepis* Shrubland Alliance; Arroyo Willow Thickets in the Manual of California Vegetation Classification System (Sawyer et al., 2009) and to Element Number 63200 Central Coast Riparian Scrub in the Holland Classification System (Holland, 1986).

The CDFW California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) was queried for information on sensitive plant and wildlife species known to occur within the project site and vicinity (CNDDB, 2014). This search included previously documented occurrences of sensitive species within the Paso Robles, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle and surrounding quadrangles (Bradley, San Miguel, Ranchito Canyon, Estrella, Creston, Templeton, York Mountain, and Adelaida). Species that are considered sensitive for this analysis include all federal and state-listed species, candidates for federal listing and species that are proposed for state listing, state species of special concern, state fully protected species, and other plant species that meet the definitions of endangered or threatened provided in Section 2062 and 2067 of the California Fish and Game Code, like California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) List 1 and List 2 species.

In addition to the quadrangle-based search, sensitive species that have been previously documented within a five-mile radius of the project site were also evaluated and visualized using the CDFW Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS) Viewer Application (CDFW, 2014). An analysis to determine which of these sensitive species has the potential to occur on site was conducted. The habitat requirements of each sensitive species were assessed and then compared to the type and quality of habitats observed on site during the field surveys (Table 1).

Table 1: CNDDB Results within 5-mile Radius of the Project Site

Scientific Name	Common Name	Listing Status*	Habitat Present/Absent
Actinemys marmorata (*Emys marmorata*)	Pacific pond turtle western pond turtle	SSC	A
Anniella pulchra pulchra	silvery legless lizard	SSC	A
Aquila chrysaetos	golden eagle	SFP	A
Branchinecta lynchi	vernal pool fairy shrimp	FT	A
Calycadenia villosa	dwarf calycadenia	1B.1	A
Calyptridium parryi var. *hesseae*	Santa Cruz mountains pussypaws	1B.1	A
Castilleja densiflora var. *obispoensis*	San Luis Obispo owl's-clover	1B.2	A
Caulanthus lemmonii	Lemmon's jewelflower	1B.2	A
Delphinium umbraculorum	umbrella larkspur	1B.3	A
Monolopia gracilens	woodland woollythreads	1B.2	A
Navarretia nigelliformis ssp. *radians*	shining navarretia	1B.2	A

Perognathus inornatus psammophilus	Salinas pocket mouse	SSC	A
Taxidea taxus	American badger	SSC	A
Triteleia ixioides ssp. *cookii*	Cook's triteleia	1B.3	A
Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo	FE/SE	A
Vulpes macrotis mutica	San Joaquin kit fox	FE/ST	A

STATUS CODES:

Federal: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
FE Federal Endangered
FT Federal Threatened
State: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
SE State Endangered
ST State Threatened
SSC State Species of Special Concern
SFP State Fully Protected
Other: California Native Plant Society's Rare Plant Rank
1B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere
Threat Ranks:
0.1 Seriously Threatened in California
0.2 Fairly Threatened in California
0.3 Not Very Threatened in California

The habitat types identified on site (ruderal/disturbed, agricultural, and mixed riparian) do not provide suitable habitat for any of the eight sensitive plant species previously documented within a five-mile radius of the project. No sensitive plant species were observed on site during the field surveys and none are anticipated to occur. The amount of natural habitat on site is limited to the mixed riparian vegetation associated with the roadside drainage channel and the areas beneath its canopy. However, the total area occupied by this habitat type is relatively small in size, the stand isolated, and it supports non-native species such as almond and Himalayan blackberry. A moderate amount of trash was observed within the roadside drainage channel feature, which has likely accumulated from littering at the intersection and blown in from the adjacent roadways. Sensitive plant species are not expected to occur within the project site.

Similarly, the habitat types on site do not provide suitable habitat for any of the eight sensitive wildlife species previously documented within a five-mile radius of the project. No sensitive wildlife species were observed on site during the field surveys. Sensitive wildlife species are not expected to occur within the project site.

Referral. The proposed project was referred to CDFW on July 23, 20104 for review and determination of any potential impacts to biological resources that may result from project implementation. A response was received that suggested the County submit a Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration for the project to address the required riparian vegetation trimming activities associated with extension of the culvert within the roadside drainage channel feature (Connolly, 2014).

Impact. One sensitive habitat type occurs within the project site, mixed riparian. Implementation of the project has potential to impact this sensitive habitat type via trimming and removal. Use of the mitigation measures presented below will ensure that all potential impacts to the mixed riparian vegetation on site are avoided and/or minimized to the maximum extent feasible.

Implementation of the project requires removal of two isolated coast live oak trees that are located in upland areas classified as ruderal/disturbed in the northwestern portion of the project site. The larger of the two oak trees has two leading boles; approximately four and seven inches diameter at breast

height, respectively. The smaller oak tree proposed for removal is a single bole that is approximately four inches diameter at breast height. Use of the mitigation measures presented below would ensure that all oak tree-related impacts from the project are avoided and/or minimized to the maximum extent feasible.

The project site does not provide suitable habitat for any of the sensitive plant species previously documented within a five-mile radius. Implementation of the proposed project would not impact any sensitive plant species and none were observed on site during the field surveys. Likewise, the project site does not provide suitable habitat for any of the sensitive wildlife species previously documented within a five-mile radius and implementation of the proposed project would not impact any sensitive wildlife species; none were observed on site during the field surveys.

The mixed riparian vegetation and other trees and shrubs on site may provide suitable habitat for a variety of nesting bird species. If construction activities occur during the nesting season (February 15 through September 1) and nesting birds are present, impacts may occur. Use of the mitigation measures presented below would ensure that all potential impacts to nesting birds from project implementation are avoided and/or minimized to the maximum extent feasible.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The following mitigation measures will be used for the project to ensure that all potentially significant impacts to biological resources are avoided and/or reduced to less than significant levels:

[BR-1] Prior to the onset of construction the County will obtain all necessary permits, approvals, and authorizations from the pertinent jurisdictional agencies. This may include, but may not be limited to a CDFW Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement. The County will adhere to all conditions included in this authorization;

[BR-2] Construction activities associated with the culvert extensions and replacement will be conducted during the dry season (April 15 through October 15 in any given year) when water in the roadside drainage channel is likely to be absent or at a seasonal minimum if feasible;

[BR-3] During project activities, all trash, debris, and other waste that may attract predators will be properly contained in sealed receptacles and disposed of off-site on a regular basis. Following construction, all trash and construction debris will be removed from the work area and immediate vicinity;

[BR-4] No pets will be allowed on site during project implementation;

[BR-5] Prior to the onset of construction activities, a qualified biologist will conduct a worker environmental awareness training session for all construction personnel. The training session will provide a summary of the general measures being implemented to avoid impacts to sensitive biological resources and a summary of the pertinent conditions of approval from the regulatory permits acquired for the project. This session will also provide an explanation of the boundaries within which the project may be accomplished;

[BR-6] All refueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment shall occur at least 65 feet from riparian habitat. The County will ensure that contamination of riparian habitat and the associated roadside drainage channel do not occur during such operations;

[BR-7] Prior to the onset of construction activities, the County will determine appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be used for the project for the general purposes of water quality maintenance, erosion prevention, and sediment control. The BMPS for the project will be printed on all applicable construction plans and these will be implemented prior to, during, and following project implementation;

[BR-8] The removed oak trees will be mitigated for at a 4:1 replacement ratio. A total of eight replacement oak trees will be installed within suitable locations in the existing ROW as close to the original oak locations as is feasible. The County will install the trees, irrigate them for the

first two years as necessary, and maintain them. The installed oaks will be monitored annually for five consecutive years in order to ensure their successful establishment; and

[BR-9] If construction activities are scheduled to occur during the nesting bird season (February 15 through September 1), a focused nesting bird survey must be conducted on site by a qualified biologist approximately one week prior to the onset of construction. If for some reason one week passes and construction activities have not been initiated, the nesting bird surveys will be repeated. If no active nests are observed (raptors within 500 feet and other species within 250 feet), construction may commence and no further mitigation is required. If active nests are observed, then the project must be delayed until the qualified biologist confirms that all young have fledged and the nest is no longer occupied. Alternatively, the qualified biologist in consultation with CDFW can facilitate the establishment of an appropriate avoidance buffer for the occupied nest until the young have fledged, so that certain construction activities can commence in other areas within the project site. Any and all active nests shall be documented by the qualified biologist and a letter report shall be submitted to CDFW, documented project compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Game Code Section 3513.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Disturb archaeological resources?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Disturb historical resources?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Disturb paleontological resources?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project site is located in an area historically occupied by the San Miguel Salinan Tribe. No historic structures are present on site and no paleontological resources are known to occur in the immediate surrounding area.

Impact. No evidence of culturally sensitive materials was observed on site during the field surveys conducted by the County, which included a Phase I (surficial) survey effort. The project site is not located in an area that is considered culturally sensitive and it generally lacks physical features typically associated with prehistoric occupation, such as mid-slope terraces, perennial streams, and wetlands. Therefore, project-related impacts to prehistoric, historic, and/or paleontological resources are not anticipated.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant cultural and/or paleontological resource impacts are expected to occur, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Result in exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions, such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, ground failure, land subsidence or other similar hazards?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Be within a California Geological Survey "Alquist-Priolo" Earthquake Fault Zone", or other known fault zones?*	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Result in soil erosion, topographic changes, loss of topsoil or unstable soil conditions from project-related improvements, such as vegetation removal, grading, excavation, or fill?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Include structures located on expansive soils?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) *Be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards?*	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Preclude the future extraction of valuable mineral resources?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

* Per Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication #42

Setting. The following relates to the project's geological aspects and conditions:

Topography: Relatively flat with portion of a roadside drainage channel

Within County's Geologic Study Area?: No

Landslide Risk Potential: Low

Liquefaction Potential: Low

Nearby potentially active faults?: Yes Distance? 1,240 feet

Area known to contain serpentine or ultramafic rock or soils?: No

Shrink/Swell potential of soil: Low

Other notable geologic features? None

The project site is not located within the County's Geologic Study Area designation. Both the landslide and liquefaction potentials on site are low however the project site is located approximately ¼ mile east of a potentially active fault. The project is limited to addition of a left hand turn lane and associated road widening within an existing roadway corridor and includes other improvements to the infrastructure. The project site does not contain noteworthy geologic features. The potentially active

fault nearby runs parallel to the existing roadway and is not anticipated to affect the project site. No new structures or other development activities are proposed.

Impact. The project will result in the disturbance of approximately 43,560 square feet or one acre. Minimal temporary disturbance may result from trimming of vegetation and permanent disturbance will result through project implementation (via grading and paving). The project does not involve any potentially problematic geologic elements and no impacts to geology and soils are anticipated. An asbestos report was prepared to document that no hazardous soils are present and no impacts are expected to occur. Temporarily disturbed areas of bare soil will be hydro-seeded to minimize soil erosion.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant impact to geology and soils are expected to occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

7. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Create a hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Create a hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within ¼-mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Be located on, or adjacent to, a site which is included on a list of hazardous material/waste sites compiled pursuant to Gov't Code 65962.5 ("Cortese List"), and result in an adverse public health condition?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Impair implementation or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) If within the Airport Review designation, or near a private airstrip, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

7. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
g) Increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high wildland fire hazard conditions?	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) Be within a 'very high' fire hazard severity zone?	☐	☐	☐	☒
i) Be within an area classified as a 'state responsibility' area as defined by CalFire?	☐	☐	☒	☐
j) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project site is not located in an area of known hazardous waste materials contamination; nor is it located adjacent to such a site. The project is not expected to conflict with any regional evacuation plan or alter the existing emergency vehicle response times because both Nacimiento Lake Drive and Adelaida Road will remain open during construction, which is anticipated to take approximately two to three months to complete. The project site is not located within an Airport Review Area or near a private airstrip. It occurs within the state fire hazard responsibility area and is within a 'high' fire severity zone. Typical emergency response times within the project site are expected to be between five and ten minutes.

Impact. Other than fuel, fluids, and lubricants typical of construction equipment, the project does not propose the use of hazardous materials and would not result in the generation of any hazardous wastes. The project site does not occur on the 'Cortese List' (which is a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5). Implementation of the project does not present a significant fire safety risk; and ultimately it will reduce the amount of fuels within the project site. The project is not expected to conflict with any regional emergency response or evacuation plans.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant impacts as a result of hazards or hazardous materials are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

8. NOISE *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Expose people to noise levels that exceed the County Noise Element thresholds?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Generate permanent increases in the ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Cause a temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise in the project vicinity?	☐	☐	☒	☐

8. NOISE *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
d) Expose people to severe noise or vibration?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) If located within the Airport Review designation or adjacent to a private airstrip, expose people residing or working in the project area to severe noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project site is located within the County's 70 decibel noise contour for Nacimiento Lake Drive, which is an existing source of transportation-related noise. Implementation of the project has potential to conflict with several sensitive noise receptors because five residences occur within the immediate vicinity of the project site. The closest residence on the west side of the road is located approximately 164 feet from the existing edge of travel lane and is currently within the County's 60 decibel noise contour for Nacimiento Lake Drive. Two other residences on the west side are 274 and 227 feet from the roadway, respectively and are located outside the 60 dB noise contour. All of these structures front toward Nacimiento Lake Drive and have outdoor use areas located to the rear that are shielded by the structures from the roadway noise. The other two residences, (both located on the east side of Nacimiento Lake Drive) are not currently within the 60 decibel noise contour for Nacimiento Lake Drive and will not be impacted by the widening to the opposite side of the roadway.

The project involves minor improvements to the existing roadway to create a left turn lane from northbound Nacimiento Lake Drive onto Adelaida Road. Widening will be made to the west, the edge of the northbound travel lane will not shift. The widening will move the travel lane approximately 12 feet to the west at the furthest point. This shift will increase the noise from the roadway at the closest receptor less than 3dB which is not discernable by the human ear and will not move existing residences into a higher dB category. These improvements will all be conducted within the existing ROW.

Temporary construction-related noise will be generated during project implementation. This work will be conducted between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. consistent with the County Noise Ordinance. The project will not generate any future stationary noise sources because no new development is proposed. It will not increase the amount of vehicle-generated noise once the project is completed because the project will not increase the amount of vehicles currently utilizing the roadway and the site is within an acceptable threshold area.

Impact. The project is not expected to generate loud noises, nor conflict with the surrounding uses.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant noise impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

9. POPULATION/HOUSING *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Induce substantial growth in an area either directly (e.g., construct new homes or businesses) or indirectly (e.g., extension of major infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Displace existing housing or people, requiring construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Create the need for substantial new housing in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project location is a rural area with limited residences and agricultural uses surrounding the project site.

Impact. The project will not result in a need for a significant amount of new housing, and will not displace existing housing.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No population and housing impacts are anticipated. No mitigation measures are necessary.

10. PUBLIC SERVICES/UTILITIES *Will the project have an effect upon, or result in the need for new or altered public services in any of the following areas:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Police protection (e.g., Sheriff, CHP)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Schools?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Roads?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Solid Wastes?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☐
g) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project area is served by the following public services/facilities:

Police: County Sheriff Location: 356 North Main Street, Templeton

Fire: Cal Fire (formerly CDF) Hazard Severity: Moderate Response Time: 5-10 minutes

Location: Approximately 4 miles to the east

School District: Paso Robles

Impact. No significant project-specific impacts to utilities or public services were identified. This project will not have a cumulative effect on police/sheriff and fire protection, and schools. It will provide an improved level of service for vehicles making turning movements onto Adelaida Road, which will also improve public safety.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation is required for the addition of a left turn lane to improve safety for the traveling public on county roads.

11. RECREATION *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Increase the use or demand for parks or other recreation opportunities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Affect the access to trails, parks or other recreation opportunities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Other _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The proposed project is not located near a park or other recreation opportunities.

Impact. The proposed project will not create a significant need for additional park, Natural Area, and/or recreational resources.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant recreation impacts are anticipated and no mitigation measures are necessary.

12. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Reduce existing "Level of Service" on public roadway(s)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance, slow vehicles)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Provide for adequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Conflict with an established measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system considering all modes of transportation (e.g. LOS, mass transit, etc.)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

12. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
f) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐
h) Result in a change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
i) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The County Public Works Department has identified this location as suitable for a safety improvement project to reduce the number of collisions along this section of roadway. Current Level of Service is "B", however the number of accidents has increased over the years with more traffic visiting the rural areas and more commuters coming from Heritage Ranch and Oak Shores on Nacimiento Lake Drive. Adelaida Road has the highest peak turning movement volume of any of the non-channelized intersections in the corridor. As a result it currently nearly meets the delay warrant for Left Turn Channelization in the PM peak period. As volumes increase to build-out levels, the intersection will meet the delay warrant for all peak periods.

Impact. The proposed project will improve the Level of Service for this location by providing a dedicated left turn lane for northbound traffic on Nacimiento Lake Drive. The project does not conflict with any adopted policies, plans, and/or programs on transportation.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant traffic impacts were identified and no mitigation measures are necessary.

13. WASTEWATER *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Violate waste discharge requirements or Central Coast Basin Plan criteria for wastewater systems?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Change the quality of surface or ground water (e.g., nitrogen-loading, day-lighting)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Adversely affect community wastewater service provider?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project will not require wastewater service.

Impact. The project will have no impact on the existing wastewater systems.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

14. WATER & HYDROLOGY ***Will the project:***	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
QUALITY				
a) Violate any water quality standards?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, sediment, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogen-loading, etc.)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding may occur?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?	☐	☐	☒	☐
QUANTITY				
h) Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?	☐	☐	☒	☐
i) Adversely affect community water service provider?	☐	☐	☐	☒
j) Expose people to a risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding (e.g., dam failure,etc.), or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒
k) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project involves minor improvements to the existing intersection that will include

additional areas of pavement. No changes to historical drainage patterns are proposed and no significant drainage facilities are located in the project area. Roadside drainage is currently carried through culverts and along roadside swales. Two existing culverts will require lengthening approximately six and 15 feet, respectively and a third existing culvert under a driveway will be replaced and headwalls will be added to accommodate the project improvements.

The topography of the project area is nearly level. The closest stream to the project site is Mustard Creek and it is approximately one mile away. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the soil surface is considered to have low erodibility.

When work is done in the rainy season, the County's Land Use Ordinance requires that temporary erosion and sedimentation measures to be installed.

DRAINAGE – The following relates to the project's drainage aspects:

Within the 100-year Flood Hazard designation? No

Closest creek? Mustard Creek Distance? Approximately one mile

Soil drainage characteristics: Well drained

SEDIMENTATION AND EROSION – Soil type, area of disturbance, and slopes are key aspects to analyzing potential sedimentation and erosion issues. The project's soil types and descriptions are listed in the previous Agriculture section under "Setting". As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the project's soil erodibility is as follows:

Soil erodibility: Low

A sedimentation and erosion control plan is required for all construction and grading projects (Land Use Ordinance [LUO] Sec. 22.52.120, Coastal LUO Sec. 23.05.036) to minimize these impacts. When required, the plan is prepared by a civil engineer to address both temporary and long-term sedimentation and erosion impacts. Projects involving more than one acre of permanent disturbance (e.g., grading) are subject to the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which focuses on controlling storm water runoff. The Regional Water Quality Control Board is the local entity who monitors this program.

Impact – Water Quality/Hydrology

With regards to project impacts on water quality the following conditions apply:

- ✓ Approximately one acre of site disturbance is proposed;
- ✓ The project will be subject to standard County requirements for drainage, sedimentation and erosion control for construction and permanent use;
- ✓ The project is not on highly erodible soils, nor on moderate to steep slopes;
- ✓ The project is not within a 100-year Flood Hazard designation;
- ✓ The project is more than 100 feet from the closest creek or surface water body;
- ✓ All disturbed areas will be permanently stabilized with impermeable surfaces and landscaping;
- ✓ Stockpiles will be properly managed during construction to avoid material loss due to erosion; and,
- ✓ All hazardous materials and/or wastes will be properly stored on-site, which include secondary containment should spills or leaks occur.

Mitigation/Conclusion. As specified above for water quality, existing regulations and/or required plans will adequately address surface water quality impacts during construction and permanent use of the project. No additional measures above what are required or proposed are needed to protect water quality.

15. LAND USE *Will the project:*	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
a) Be potentially inconsistent with land use, policy/regulation (e.g., general plan [County Land Use Element and Ordinance], local coastal plan, specific plan, Clean Air Plan, etc.) adopted to avoid or mitigate for environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Be potentially inconsistent with any habitat or community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Be potentially inconsistent with adopted agency environmental plans or policies with jurisdiction over the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be potentially incompatible with surrounding land uses?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting/Impact. Surrounding uses are identified on Page 2 of this Initial Study. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with policy and/or regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance, etc.). Referrals were sent to outside agencies to review for policy consistencies (e.g., CAL FIRE for Fire Code, APCD for Clean Air Plan, etc.). The project was found to be consistent with these documents (refer also to Exhibit A on reference documents used).

The project is not within or adjacent to an existing Habitat Conservation Plan area. The project is consistent or compatible with the surrounding uses as summarized on page 2 of this Initial Study.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No inconsistencies were identified and therefore no additional measures above what will already be required were determined necessary.

16. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☒	☐

b)	***Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)***	☐	☐	☒	☐
c)	***Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?***	☐	☐	☒	☐

For further information on CEQA or the county's environmental review process, please visit the County's web site at "www.sloplanning.org" under "Environmental Information", or the California Environmental Resources Evaluation System at: http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines for information about the California Environmental Quality Act.

Mitigation Monitoring Plan

The purpose of a Mitigation Monitoring Plan is to provide a program to examine, document, and record compliance with the environmental plans and specifications pertinent to the proposed project, in order to comply with Section 21081.6 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This plan provides the standards and methods necessary to ensure and document implementation of the environmental mitigation measures that are required for the project, as well as with the conditions of approval placed on project permits. Responsibility for ensuring successful implementation of the Mitigation Monitoring Plan lies with the County of San Luis Obispo, as the project proponent and Lead Agency for the project under CEQA.

If the recommended mitigation measures and monitoring plan are implemented successfully, the potential significant adverse effects stemming from project construction will be reduced to a level of insignificance.

Mitigation monitoring will be carried out by the Environmental Programs Division of the County's Department of Public Works. The Environmental Programs Division provides environmental services to the Department of Public Works, including mitigation compliance and monitoring, with CEQA oversight by the County's Environmental Coordinator.

Upon approval of the CEQA document, and issuance of all required permits, the Environmental Programs Division will assign internal responsibility for compliance with each mitigation measure to one or more members of the project team. Responsible parties include the Environmental Programs Division, the Project Manager (PM), the Resident Engineer (RE), and/or on-site monitors.

Mitigation measures are organized into project design, pre-construction, construction, and post construction tasks. Compliance with the mitigation measures is documented in the project file through written reports and are accompanied by project photos where necessary. Post construction monitoring of revegetation and other project components is documented by annual reports that are prepared on a schedule that is typically determined by one or more of the project permits. Depending on the complexity of the post construction mitigation efforts, tasks will be carried out by County staff or other technical experts under contract to the County. Post construction monitoring is typically conducted for three to five years, depending on the permit requirements and designated success criteria.

Where necessary, construction personnel will be required to attend a crew orientation meeting and environmental awareness training session. The meeting will be conducted by the RE and/or the assigned Environmental Programs Division staff and will be used to acquaint the construction crews with the various environmental resource sensitivities and environmental constraints of the project site. The orientation meeting shall place an emphasis on the need for adherence to the required mitigation measures and permit conditions as well as the need for cooperation and communication among all concerned parties (i.e., RE, Environmental Programs Division, Environmental Coordinator, construction personnel) in working together to solve problems and arrive at solutions on site and during all aspects of project execution.

Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts

The County Planning Department has contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with a ☒) and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

Contacted	Agency	Response
☐	County Public Works Department	**Not Applicable**
☐	County Environmental Health Division	**Not Applicable**
☒	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	**Attached**
☐	County Airport Manager	**Not Applicable**
☐	Airport Land Use Commission	**Not Applicable**
☒	Air Pollution Control District	**Attached**
☐	County Sheriff's Department	**Not Applicable**
☐	Regional Water Quality Control Board	**Not Applicable**
☐	CA Coastal Commission	**Not Applicable**
☒	CA Department of Fish and Wildlife	**Attached**
☒	CA Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)	**Attached**
☐	CA Department of Transportation	**Not Applicable**
☐	Community Services District	**Not Applicable**
☐	Other _____	**Not Applicable**
☐	Other _____	**Not Applicable**

*** "No comment" or "No concerns"-type responses are usually not attached*

The following checked ("☒") reference materials have been used in the environmental review for the proposed project and are hereby incorporated by reference into the Initial Study. The following information is available at the County Planning and Building Department.

☒ Project File for the Subject Application

County documents

- ☐ Coastal Plan Policies
- ☒ Framework for Planning (Coastal/Inland)
- ☒ General Plan (Inland/Coastal), includes all maps/elements; more pertinent elements:
  - ☒ Agriculture Element
  - ☒ Conservation & Open Space Element
  - ☐ Economic Element
  - ☒ Housing Element
  - ☒ Noise Element
  - ☐ Parks & Recreation Element/Project List
  - ☒ Safety Element
- ☒ Land Use Ordinance (Inland/Coastal)
- ☐ Building and Construction Ordinance
- ☐ Public Facilities Fee Ordinance
- ☐ Real Property Division Ordinance
- ☐ Affordable Housing Fund
- ☐ Airport Land Use Plan
- ☐ Energy Wise Plan
- ☒ Adelaida Area Plan and Update EIR
- ☐ Design Plan
- ☐ Specific Plan
- ☒ Annual Resource Summary Report
- ☐ Circulation Study

Other documents

- ☒ Clean Air Plan/APCD Handbook
- ☒ Regional Transportation Plan
- ☒ Uniform Fire Code
- ☒ Water Quality Control Plan (Central Coast Basin – Region 3)
- ☒ Archaeological Resources Map
- ☒ Area of Critical Concerns Map
- ☒ Special Biological Importance Map
- ☒ CA Natural Species Diversity Database
- ☒ Fire Hazard Severity Map
- ☒ Flood Hazard Maps
- ☒ Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey for SLO County
- ☒ GIS mapping layers (e.g., habitat, streams, contours, etc.)
- ☐ Other

Exhibit B - Mitigation Summary Table

Per Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the following measures also constitute the mitigation monitoring and/or reporting program that will reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. These measures will become conditions of approval (COAs) should the project be approved. The Lead Agency (County) or other Responsible Agencies, as specified in the following measures, are responsible to verify compliance with these COAs.

[***Add following if Monitor Measure included***] Furthermore, the Applicant will be required to retain an Environmental Monitor (see Mitigation Measure EM-1) to provide greater assurance environmental project COAs will be met.

[AG-1] To the maximum extent feasible project staging areas shall be located off adjacent agricultural production areas.

[AQ-1] Maintain all construction equipment in proper tune according to the manufacturer's specifications;

[AQ-2] All on and off-road diesel equipment shall not idle for more than five minutes.

[AQ-3] Use water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 miles per hour. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible;

[AQ-4] All dirt stock pile areas should be sprayed daily as needed; and,

[AQ-5] Sweep streets at the end of each day if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent paved roads. Water sweepers with reclaimed water should be used where feasible.

[BR-1] Prior to the onset of construction the County will obtain all necessary permits, approvals, and authorizations from the pertinent jurisdictional agencies. This may include, but may not be limited to a CDFW Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement. The County will adhere to all conditions included in this authorization;

[BR-2] Construction activities associated with the culvert extensions and replacement will be conducted during the dry season (April 15 through October 15 in any given year) when water in the roadside drainage channel is likely to be absent or at a seasonal minimum if feasible;

[BR-3] During project activities, all trash, debris, and other waste that may attract predators will be properly contained in sealed receptacles and disposed of off-site on a regular basis. Following construction, all trash and construction debris will be removed from the work area and immediate vicinity;

[BR-4] No pets will be allowed on site during project implementation;

[BR-5] Prior to the onset of construction activities, a qualified biologist will conduct a worker environmental awareness training session for all construction personnel. The training session will provide a summary of the general measures being implemented to avoid impacts to sensitive biological resources and a summary of the pertinent conditions of approval from the regulatory permits acquired for the project. This session will also provide an explanation of the boundaries within which the project may be accomplished;

[BR-6] All refueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment shall occur at least 65 feet from riparian habitat. The County will ensure that contamination of riparian habitat and the associated roadside drainage channel do not occur during such operations;

[BR-7] Prior to the onset of construction activities, the County will determine appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be used for the project for the general purposes of water quality maintenance, erosion prevention, and sediment control. The BMPS for the project will be printed on all applicable construction plans and these will be implemented prior to, during, and following project implementation;

[BR-8] The removed oak trees will be mitigated for at a 4:1 replacement ratio. Eight replacement oak trees will be installed within suitable locations in the existing ROW as close to the original oak locations as is feasible. The County will install the trees, irrigate them for the first two years as necessary, and maintain them. The installed oaks will be monitored annually for five consecutive years in order to ensure their successful establishment; and

[BR-9] If construction activities are scheduled to occur during the nesting bird season (February 15 through September 1), a focused nesting bird survey must be conducted on site by a qualified biologist approximately one week prior to the onset of construction. If for some reason one week passes and construction activities have not been initiated, the nesting bird surveys will be repeated. If no active nests are observed (raptors within 500 feet and other species within 250 feet), construction may commence and no further mitigation is required. If active nests are observed, then the project must be delayed until the qualified biologist confirms that all young have fledged and the nest is no longer occupied. Alternatively, the qualified biologist in consultation with CDFW can facilitate the establishment of an appropriate avoidance buffer for the occupied nest until the young have fledged, so that certain construction activities can commence in other areas within the project site. Any and all active nests shall be documented by the qualified biologist and a letter report shall be submitted to CDFW, documented project compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Game Code Section 3513.

Exhibit C - Vicinity Map

VICINITY MAP

Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road Left Turn Lane Addition Project

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

1: 1,726

0 72 144 Feet

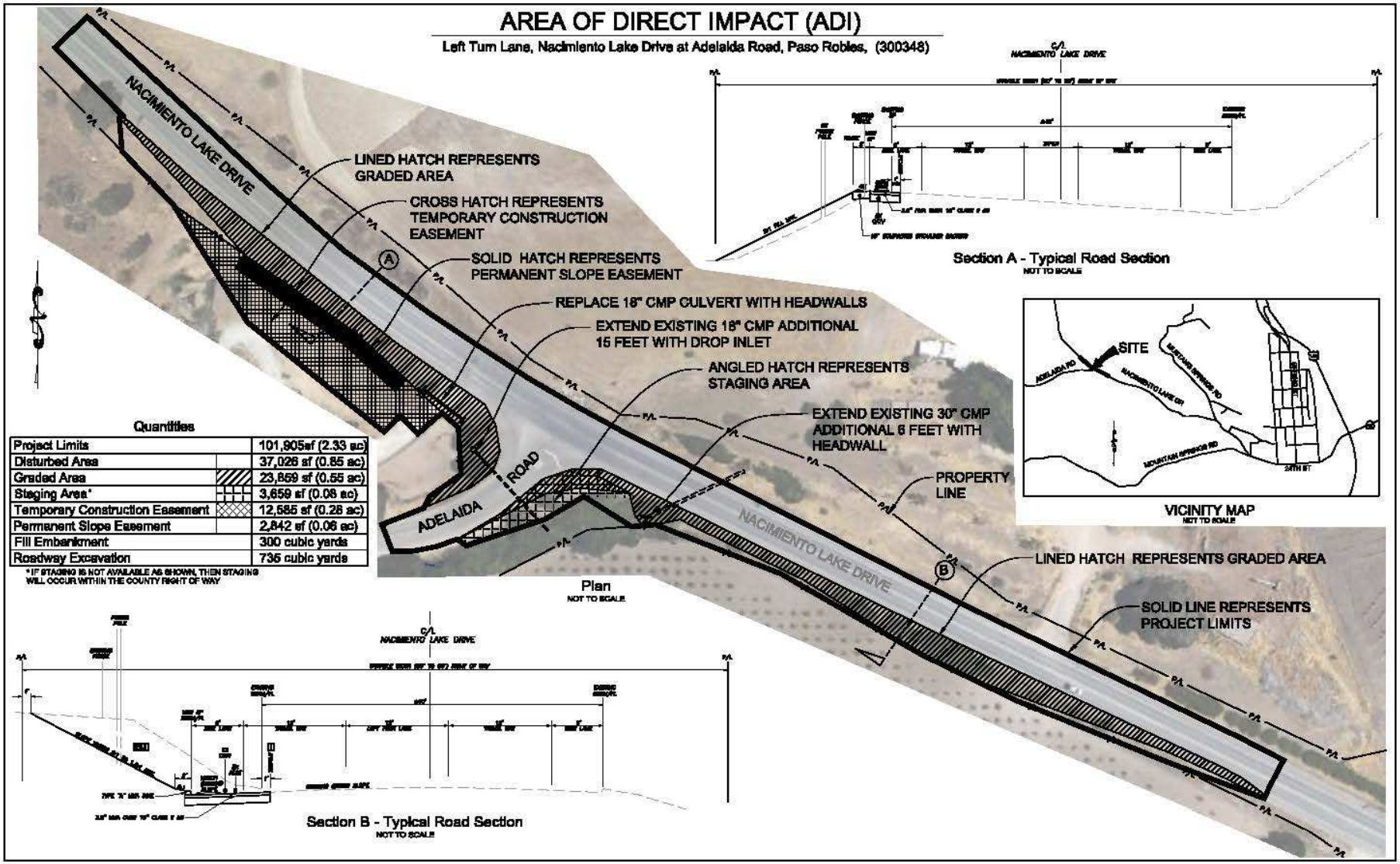
Created by: Staff

Printed: 7/23/2014

Exhibit D - Project Plans

AREA OF DIRECT IMPACT (ADI)

Left Turn Lane, Nacimiento Lake Drive at Adelaida Road, Paso Robles, (300348)



Plan
NOT TO SCALE

Quantities

Project Limits	101,905sf (2.33 ac)
Disturbed Area	37,026 sf (0.85 ac)
Graded Area	23,859 sf (0.55 ac)
Staging Area*	3,659 sf (0.08 ac)
Temporary Construction Easement	12,585 sf (0.28 ac)
Permanent Slope Easement	2,842 sf (0.06 ac)
Fill Embankment	300 cubic yards
Roadway Excavation	736 cubic yards

*IF STAGING IS NOT AVAILABLE AS SHOWN, THEN STAGING WILL OCCUR WITHIN THE COUNTY RIGHT OF WAY

Section A - Typical Road Section
NOT TO SCALE

VICINITY MAP
NOT TO SCALE

Section B - Typical Road Section
NOT TO SCALE